

### **Remarks**

Claims 1-9 and 17 were rejected by the Examiner as being obvious over Timans (USP 6,849,831) in view of Timans (USPubAppl 2002/0137311).

Claims 10-16 were objected to by the Examiner as being dependent from a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Of the claims examined, namely claims 1-17, claim 1 is the only independent claim, with the remainder of the claims being dependent directly, or through another dependent claim, from claim 1.

Claim 1 has been amended to further define the heating device as having a preheating radiation source and a relay system. The limitations added to claim 1 come substantially from original claim 10 which is dependent from claim 1 and was objected to by the Examiner. Further, claim 10 has been amended to recite that the relay system of amended claim 1 includes a relay lens.

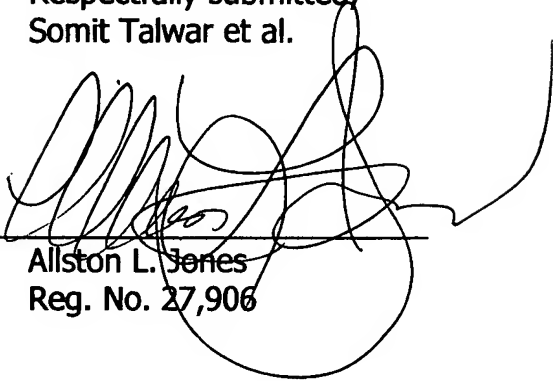
Support for those amendments is provided throughout the instant application as filed, e.g., in FIGS. 8 and 10 and accompanying text in which relay system is identified by reference number 140.

As all claims are now in condition for allowance, the issuance of a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,  
Somit Talwar et al.

by



Allston L. Jones  
Reg. No. 27,906

Peters, Verny, Jones, Schmidt & Aston, LLP  
425 Sherman Ave., Suite 230  
Palo Alto, CA 94306  
Voice: 650/324-1677 [Mail Box 105]  
FAX: 650/324-1678  
e-mail: [ajones2956@yahoo.com](mailto:ajones2956@yahoo.com)  
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